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Torrance Herald

Torrance Population 8200

SIXTEENTH YEAR—No. 2

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TORRANCE TO ENTERTAIN HOWE MEN

Over 300 Dealers from State Expected at Monday Gathering Here—Trip Through Steel Mill

Torrance is to play host to over 300 hardware dealers and their wives of California, Monday evening, who have been invited to the Modern Industrial City through Huron E. Reeve, of the Bulb-Edge Glass company.

The hardware men and their guests will assemble at the Torrance Chamber of Commerce offices about seven o'clock, and will then be conducted on a tour through the Columbia Steel mills.

Following the trip through the steel mills, the party will be served a buffet lunch at the Torrance Women's club and an orchestra will provide music for dancing the remainder of the evening.

DR. BRIEGLER SPEAKS BEFORE BROTHERHOOD

Capacity Crowd Attends January Meeting of M. E. Organization

"Seem Things," the topic chosen by Dr. G. A. Briegleb, associate pastor with Dr. Bob Shuler, at the M. E. Brotherhood dinner Monday evening, was one of the most inspiring talks ever given before that organization.

There was a complete sell-out of tickets in advance, and approximately 250 people attended the dinner. The church orchestra, under the leadership of Mr. G. L. Hyde, played several numbers.

Mr. G. L. Morris, who was to try out his newly vested magic power on raising a heavy oak table, received the merry laugh when his first few words of hokum pokus failed to make the table move.

BILLY THE BARBER SAYS More people have slipped on apple sauce than on banana peels.

90c Profit Better Than 3 Lost Meals

One day's work equals two days' loafing. At least this is the idea set up by Judge Rippy and the city council for prisoners at the city lock-up.

GENTLE RAIN BREAKS LONG DRY PERIOD

Torrance Receives .65 of Inch of Moisture Sunday—None of It Wasted

The prayers of the parished Southland were answered Sunday when the dusts of nearly nine months' dry spell were moistened by gentle but plentiful rain drops.

While the rainfall was not what would be called a major storm, none of the precious drops were wasted, as the fall was gentle and practically all the much needed moisture was absorbed by the ground.

Snow in Mountains Fourteen inches of snow was reported at Lake Huntington in the High Sierras. The Big Bear district is also snow blanketed.

Prediction Blasted The general rainfall upset the predictions of Father Ricard of Santa Clara University, who announced at the beginning of the year that there would be no rainfall in California during January.

R. B. CHRISTIE HURT ASCAR OVERTURNS

Unusual Accident Results in Broken Rib and Numerous Minor Injuries

Robert B. Christie, who is employed at the Pan-American lease east of Torrance, is recovering from a fractured rib and numerous abrasions received last Friday when his car overturned as he was returning home from work.

Mr. and Mrs. Christie who reside at the Edison apartments are remaining at the home of their nephew until the injured man is well enough to be about.

HOLMBERG TAKES LIFE BY SHOOTING

Note to Friend Starts Frenzied Search for Death-Intent Man

Ill Health Drives Shipyard Employee to Take His Own Life

White Ed Hansen, San Pedro shipyard employe, was frantically searching the harbor district to find a note to a friend.

Hansen received a letter from Holmberg yesterday morning in which Holmberg stated that he would take his own life, and a companion started out immediately on a search that ended late last evening at Stone and Myers mortuary in Torrance.

Until the appearance of the note, the motive for the suicide of Holmberg had baffled officers. He had left no notes, was well dressed and apparently not despondent from lack of funds.

Holmberg, who was 68 years of age, died instantly after sending one bullet from a .38 caliber revolver into his body directly under the heart.

The dead man was a shipyard employe and resided at 622 West Fourth street, San Pedro.

KIWANIS TO CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY

Torrance Club Joins with 1851 Others in Fitting Observance of 15th Year of Growth

The Kiwanis Club of Torrance will during the week of January 19 to 25 join with 1851 other clubs of Kiwanis International in observance of the fifteenth anniversary of the founding of the organization.

"Kiwanis International was organized in Detroit in 1915 and the first regular meeting was held on January 21 of that year. The membership of Kiwanis International, totaling more than 102,000, is confined in clubs located in 1852 cities, large and small, in the United States and Canada.

The Torrance club is now 4 years old," said President Rippy, "and we have enjoyed the growth and development that has come to the international organization of which we are a chartered and active unit."

"The major objectives for 1930, which will be re-stressed at the anniversary meeting include: underprivileged child work, vocational guidance and placement, urban-rural relations and social and civic undertakings of a general and specific nature."

STUDENT BODY ELECTION ENDS IN DEADLOCK

Three Candidates Run Close Race for President—New Election Called

Student body elections at Torrance High school yesterday failed to settle a close battle between John Young, Joe Tavan and Beulah Cooper for president.

Mr. Dimpke, who was elected vice president of the student body, said that his company had an agreement for the gas rights with the Archer Oil company.

Mr. Dimpke, who is both a cattle and a "dude" ranch, is owned and managed by the Stewarts.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Stewart with Mrs. Stewart's mother, Mrs. Bertha Cook, and Mrs. Mary W. Young and daughter Charlotte, of the Cross Triangle ranch near Prescott, Arizona, recently moved to Torrance and are living at 1461 Post avenue.

Scatter Poppy Seed Now, Watch Vacant Lots Bloom With Gold In Springtime

The rains have arrived! And with the rains has come the psychological moment to plant poppy seeds on that vacant lot!

Torrance to Benefit by Big Edison Expansion Program

Columbia Steel Sub-Station at Torrance Among Units to Be Enlarged in 1930

Southern California Edison company expenditures for distribution extensions and new business reinforcements in the Redondo Beach-Torrance district during 1930 will total \$384,000, according to figures made here today by C. W. Kolner, district manager.

The district also will share extensively in the general system expansion to be effected by the expenditure of \$7,066,476 for additional steam-electric and hydro-electric generating facilities, transmission stations and lines and communication lines.

A portion of the expenditures for construction in the Redondo Beach-Torrance district will be for a new sub-station at Palos Verdes and reinforcement of the service facilities at the Columbia Steel Company, Redondo Beach and Torrance sub-stations.

OIL COMPANY AND KEYSTONE FOLK CONFER

Threatened Shut-down of Archer Well Brings Out Views of Property Owners

Threatening to shut down the Archer well unless owners of Keystone property accept so-called three months' leases, H. S. Dimpke, special representative of the Signal Oil and Gas Corporation addressed a meeting of Keystone property owners Tuesday afternoon at Souder's real estate office on Avila boulevard in Wilmington.

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Hotel Room Secret Out

The object of the mysterious leasing of hotel rooms at the Antlers and other Torrance hotels was learned this week when it was revealed that the rooms are to be used by the General Petroleum Corporation.

NOTED RANCH OWNERS MOVE TO TORRANCE

Dude Ranch Owned by New Residents Made Famous by Harold Bell Wright

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TO DEMAND TAX REFUND FROM COUNTY

Torrance Council Expects to Collect Back Franchise Money Paid by Edison Co. to County

A demand will be made by the City of Torrance, that the County of Los Angeles for a refund of franchise taxes paid by the Southern California Edison company for lines within the city limits of Torrance.

COLUMBIA TO HOLD ANOTHER MEETING 27th

Meeting on 15th to Effect Consolidation Will Be Followed by Columbia Dissolution on 27th

A special meeting—in addition to the one previously called on January 15th—has been called of the stockholders of the Columbia Steel Corporation for January 27th, 1930 in the office of the company at San Francisco.

In view of this later meeting, no announcement of expansions contemplated for the Pacific Coast plants of the steel corporation is expected until February 1st, as officials of both the Columbia and the U. S. Steel corporations have refused to discuss plans until the legal title has been transferred to the major corporation.

Steel Demand Shows Gain There has been considerable improvement in the demand for steel products since the beginning of the current year, and this has brought a sharp increase in ingot production, it was reported in New York this week.

After having been as low as 50 per cent or less during the two holiday weeks, United States Steel Corporation has brought its ingot production back to 47 per cent, with indications that by the end of this week gradual improvement will result in a rate of between 63 and 65 per cent.

At the start of last year, the Steel Corporation was running at 37 per cent of capacity, with the independents around 24 per cent, and the average for the industry was at nearly 31 per cent.

Early Morning Blaze Gets Headway Before Arrival of Firemen

Fire destroyed the oil derrick No. 6-A, belonging to the Getty Oil company early Saturday morning. The derrick, which is located on Carson street, between Iris and Maple, was a mass of flames when the Torrance fire department arrived at 2:15 a. m.

It is asserted that the fire had its beginning in the belt house on the derrick, and is said to have been caused by a short in the wiring.

Mid-Block Pedestrian Zone Ordered

Walk between the buttons please, when you cross Sartori avenue between El Prado and Marcelina. This is the ruling made this week by the city council, as they authorized a pedestrian zone established in this busy block.

The zone was authorized at the request of several merchants in the block, who stated that a dangerous condition exists at present as shoppers dodge from among closely parked cars on the street into the narrow vehicle lanes.

Hotel Room Secret Out

The object of the mysterious leasing of hotel rooms at the Antlers and other Torrance hotels was learned this week when it was revealed that the rooms are to be used by the General Petroleum Corporation.

It was explained in the notices mailed to stockholders that the additional meeting had been found necessary to effect the dissolution of the company and the consolidation of its business with that of the major steel corporation.

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IMPROVEMENT S. OF CARSON IS ORDERED

Henning Explains Economy of Doing Work Now in Overruling Protests

Improvement of streets south of Carson street in East Torrance were ordered last week by the Los Angeles City Council, which body overruled the protests of a group of property owners who appeared in person before the Los Angeles council and others who sent in written protests.

In overruling the objections of property owners, Councilman A. P. Henning of this district, explained that most of the protests were late, as the final date for entering protests was December 6th, at which time there was only 73 per cent of the property owners in the improvement district.

The improvements ordered call for the paving of Western avenue between 23rd street and 25th street, Main street between Carson and 22nd street and 21st, 21st and 22nd streets between Western avenue and Normandie. Sewers, sidewalks and curbs will also be installed on these streets. The gas mains and electric lines are already in.

The deeds and easements were accepted in connection with 1924 improvements between Main street and Vermont avenues by the Los Angeles council last week, which body also instructed the city engineer to prepare plans and ordinances for the improvement of 182nd street between Vermont avenue and a point easterly.

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A demand will be made by the City of Torrance, that the County of Los Angeles for a refund of franchise taxes paid by the Southern California Edison company for lines within the city limits of Torrance.

The matter was first discussed at a December meeting of the Torrance Council when the Edison company made application for a city franchise to replace the present blanket franchise with the county. When it was disclosed that the Edison company was now paying taxes to the county for lines within the City of Torrance, Torrance councilmen raised the question as to whether the City of Torrance was not entitled to this money instead of the county.

At this week's meeting of the city council, Attorney Briney reported that he was sure the county would refund the taxes that have been collected for lines within Torrance. Briney stated that the county last year collected over \$25,000 from the Edison company, which amount covered the lines over the entire county. The portion of this money which rightfully belongs to the City of Torrance would have to be computed from the Edison company records, as the county has only the blanket amount, according to the city attorney.

Mr. Briney says, however, that the tax was computed on the mileage basis and ran from \$13.00 to \$15.00 per mile of lines, or approximately two per cent of the gross revenue.

No action was taken on the request of the Edison company for a franchise within the city of Torrance, as the city attorney and city engineers have not completed their investigation. The city attorney stated that sample franchise forms had been received from the Edison company and he expected that a recommendation would be made at the January 21st meeting of the council.

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